

# **Manufacturing Innovation Fund Advisory Board**

## ***March Meeting Minutes***

### **Department of Economic and Community Development**

March 10, 2016  
9:00AM-10:30 AM  
505 Hudson Street  
Hartford, Connecticut

#### **Attendance**

- Board Members: Colin Cooper, John Harrity, Don Balducci
- Board Members via Phone: Commissioner Catherine Smith, Beverlee Dacey , Danny DI PERNA, John Zoldy
- Quorum: Yes
- Stakeholders: Sue Palisano, Mark Stankiewicz, Elliot Ginsberg, Jennifer Herz, Bernice Zampano, Tracey Ariel, Hank Tesky, Eleanor Lennon, David Furrer, Mike Accorsi
- Stakeholders via Phone: Bryan Garcia, Priya Wing , Mun Choi, Kylene Perras
- DECD Staff: Carmen Molina-Rios, Bart Kollen, Barbara Fernandez, Toni Karnes

#### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order by Chair Commissioner Catherine H. Smith at 9:00 am.

1. Call to Order: Commissioner Smith welcomed the board to the meeting and introductions were made.
2. Approval of January 14 and February 11 minutes – Motion to approve by John Harrity and motion seconded by Colin Cooper, motion passes.
3. Evaluation and Metrics:
  - Don Balducci provided an overview of the recommendation and asked that Bryan walk the group through the guidance received from the Governor's economic forum. Some discussion ensued regarding the tracking of energy costs. After some discussion, Commissioner Smith noted that the actual cost of energy can be tracked and noted that it would be beneficial to track the before and after cost to get accurate metrics.
  - Barbara Fernandez noted that no vote was needed but the slide would be updated to reflect both metrics.
4. Electronic Vote:
  - Commissioner Smith Catherine read the proposed resolution allowing for email votes to be made by the board. Don Balducci made a motion to accept. John Harrity seconded, motion passes.

5. Funding Process:

- Barbara Fernandez provided an overview of the funding process under IMCP. Carmen Molino-Rios added federal information regarding the process. After some discussion, John Harrity stated the committee may be able to identify additional funding opportunities but it would require staff work beyond the committee.

6. IMCP Research and Innovation:

- Danny DiPerna provided an overview of the IMCP Research and Innovation project. He noted that this was being presented as a concept to get board input. There are two projects: one for aerospace and one for shipbuilding. He noted that both Pratt and EB would take the lead but the projects benefit the local supply chain.
- Catherine Smith stated she would like to know the supply chain impact and noted that perhaps it was an action item for research.
- There was some discussion of modeling capabilities and adding a workforce component. Barbara Fernandez suggested that these issues would be better discussed at the team level.
- Beverlee Dacey expressed concern of funding projects that might train workers that eventually leave the state. Commissioner Smith advised those DECD job obligation requirements in all its contracts. EB stated that they have a very high retention rate when they hire students out of college, over 70% of students stay in CT.
- John Harrity asked if developed technology will stay in state. Board responded – Pratt and EB yes.
- The team was asked to rework the proposal to provide specific sources of federal funding, and a list of supply chain companies that would benefit from these projects.

7. Dream It. Do It. Proposal

- Colin Cooper moved that MIF fund the Dream it Dot it and Young Manufacturer's programs for a total of \$379,523: \$206,523 for Dream It Do It and \$173,000 for Young Manufacturers. John Harrity seconds the motion. Discussion ensued regarding possible need to wait to implement.
- Elliot Ginsberg advised that program starts July 1 and students are chosen in March. Beverlee suggested that the Committee wait a month.
- Colin Cooper and Catherine Smith advised that the group should move forward. Catherine asked for a vote. In favor: 4. No: 1 Don Balducci abstained. Motion carries

8. RADE

- Barbara Fernandez and Carmen Molino-Rios provided an overview of the event. EB and Pratt to participate. CCAT and Draper will advise DECD regarding Task 5. Beverlee Dacey asked if Task 5 is an annual obligation. Catherine Smith responded that it was not.

9. Other Business:

- Barbara Fernandez reminded the group of the strategic planning session.
- Strategic Planning Session will be held:  
March 24, 12-3pm  
Building 2, Board Room  
845 Brook Street, Rocky Hill, CT 06067
- Next Meeting Date: April 14, 2016 – this will be rescheduled to April 21, 2016

10. Commissioner Smith adjourns at 10:10